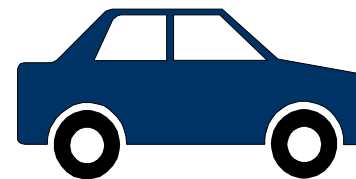




San Bernardino County
Department of Children's Services
AND
Probation Department

San Bernardino County

SP Independent Living Skills Program



WHAT IS ILP - INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM?

ILP is a federal and state funded, nationwide program designed to provide basic life skills, career exploration and job readiness preparation for foster teens. In this program, the teens will learn skills to prepare them to transition to adulthood and living on their own.

WHO OFFERS THESE SERVICES?

The San Bernardino County Department of Children's Services receives an annual state and federal allocation to provide ILP services to eligible teens placed in or supervised by this county. A portion of this allocation is shared with the San Bernardino Probation Department via an interagency agreement to provide ILP services to probation youths placed in out of home care.

WHAT TEENS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ILP SERVICES?

Any teen who is:

- Between the ages of 16 to 21 years.
- Currently or have been in out of home care OR
- Placed with a relative or guardian



WHAT SERVICES ARE PLANNED FOR ILP IN THE FUTURE?

Key business persons in the community will be recruited as volunteers to:

- Act as one-on-one mentors for After Care teens.
- Create on the job training opportunities.
- Assist with Transitional Housing
- Develop a California Youth Connection (CYC) Chapter

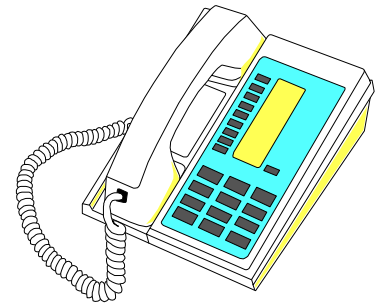
HOW DO I CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Lory Klopfer ILP Coordinator - (909) 891-3559
Rancho – Tracy Thorne - ILP SW - (909) 945-3913
San Bndo- Leslie Abram - ILP SW - (909) 383-2136
San Bndo- Gregoria Marin- ILP SW- (909) 383-1395
Desert - Christal Quam - ILP SW - (760) 843-8494

Cathy Roland
Probation ILP Coordinator
(909) 383-2907

FOR ILP REGISTRATION
CONTACT YOUR ILP
CLERK AT:

San Bernardino
Irma Romero: (909) 386-1394
Victorville
Stacey Bryant: (760) 843-2774
Rancho Cucamonga
Sandra Hernandez: (909) 945-3931



ALL STAFF ARE ALSO AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR
GLOBAL ADDRESS NETWORK.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR CASE IS DISMISSED?

California law now requires that the social worker ensure all foster youth age 18 or 19 attend their case dismissal hearing unless they do not wish to or they can not be located.

Before your case is dismissed by the court, the social worker must provide each youth with the following:

- A written summary of your family history including: placement history, sibling and relative information, and health and educational information.
- The proposed date on which juvenile court jurisdiction should be terminated.
- A copy of your: birth certificate, Social Security card, California ID or drivers license, proof of citizenship (if applicable) and any other critical legal documents.
- Assistance with: medical/health insurance applications, securing housing or housing assistance, obtaining employment or financial support.
- Assistance with applying for college/vocational training and obtaining financial aid.



WHAT IF A TEEN WAS IN FOSTER CARE AND IS RETURNED TO THE HOME?

Once a teen is eligible for ILP Services they remain eligible to age 21.

WHAT IF THE FOSTER TEEN IS PLACED OUT OF THE COUNTY OR STATE?

The ILP is offered in most California counties and in all States. The social workers must initiate an ILP referral form through their ILP staff to request that the other county or state provide ILP services.

HOW CAN A FOSTER TEEN BE REFERRED FOR ILP SERVICES?

The foster teen's Child Welfare Services social worker or probation officer will make a referral to the county ILP program. Prior to being referred, the social worker, the teen and the teen's caretaker will meet to assess the teen's independent living skills, job readiness and training needs and complete the teen's Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP).

These forms, completed prior to the teen's 16th birthday, will then be given to the ILP staff to initiate services. These referrals help the ILP staff identify eligible teens and provide appropriate services. Once the referral is received, workers will then be permitted to enroll their teens in available classes and workshops.

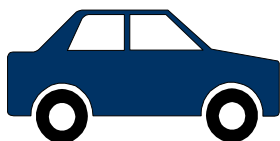
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ILP TEENS?

- One day workshops on specific topics
- Ten week "hard and soft skill" classes
- Year end retreats
- Foster teen conference
- After Care Program
- Self paced workbooks and other individual plans
- Tutoring
- Scholarships
- Drivers Training
- Bus passes/gas scripts

Workshops and classes are located in the West Valley, East Valley including the mountain area and Desert Regions. Classes are located at the local college campus, libraries, high schools and community centers. The class curriculum includes, but is not limited to:

- Personal growth and self-esteem
- Money management and budgeting
- Landlord - tenant rights
- Adolescent health issues
- Interpersonal skills
- Consumer awareness
- Nutrition and cooking
- Interviewing for a job, resume writing, job maintenance
- Career exploration
- Alcohol and drug abuse
- Family Planning
- Working wardrobe
- Job searches
- Exit - Financial Aid
- Computer/Internet training

Transportation is provided to most events!



JUVENILE COURT CASE FILE INSPECTION

Foster youth are entitled to inspect their juvenile court case files. The social worker must provide foster youth with directions on how to access the documents the youth is entitled to inspect before court dismissal.

To access their juvenile court files, youth must request file inspection by providing a written request to the Juvenile Court Clerk's office at:

**Juvenile Court Clerk
900 E. Gilbert
San Bernardino, Ca. 92415-0942
(909) 387-7538**



EXTENDED MEDI-CAL BENEFITS

Most former foster youth are eligible for full Medi-Cal benefits until their 21st birthday. The **initial enrollment** process is automatic for qualifying youth; however, **renewal** of Extended Medi-Cal benefits is not automatic and requires annual eligibility renewal with the youth verifying the following:

- The youth's consent to continue with Medi-Cal services.
- The youth's current address.
- The existence of any other medical insurance (i.e. through employment etc.).

Laminated "Extended Medi-Cal Benefit" informational cards are available and must be distributed by the ILP social worker to all qualified youth before case dismissal.

Specific questions regarding this new benefit can be directed to the Rancho Cucamonga Foster Care unit 1-888-743-1474.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION IN ILP?

- Financial incentives are given for most classes or workshop participation. Incentives include, but are not limited to: Up to \$10.00 per class, \$25.00 for one day workshops or \$50.00 for all day event.
- Scholarships for college tuition.
- Scholarships for vocational training to obtain a license or certificate in a trade.
- High school graduation rewards.
- Help with work related expenses; (uniforms, shoes, tools, bus tickets, etc.).
- Networking with other foster teens.
- Newsletter.
- Resource Directory for teens.
- Tutoring.
- Drivers Training.
- ID packet - birth certificate, social security card, DMV card, health history, placement history.
- After Care Services.
- Exit package (includes household start-up supplies).



WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO FORMER FOSTER TEENS LEAVING THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM?

The ILP After Care program provides the following for After Care teens up to age 21 years:

- Counseling and supportive services.
- Crisis intervention, one-on-one mentoring and resource networking, and assistance locating housing and employment.
- Ongoing medical benefits up to the age of 21 years.

All teens should be referred to our After-Care Program 6 months prior to dismissal. Cameron Hill Associates is the agency currently providing services to our After-Care teens. Cameron Hill Associates staff can be reached at (909) 890-4301 or by e-mail: Cameronhil@aol.com.

HOW ARE FOSTER TEENS HELPED TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT?

Through an interagency agreement, ILP teens are referred to JESD for jobs and other employment programs. Employment Services are also a component of our After-Care program and the ILP Social Workers in each region provide teens with job search assistance and skill development.



WHAT IS THE FOSTER CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM?

The Foster Care Ombudsman:

- Advocates for children in foster care.
- Acts as a mediator who will coordinate with others involved in the care of the dependent youth in out of home care.
- Works to ensure the quality of care provided to children in all out-of-home placements.

To contact the State Ombudsman office write or call:

SOUTHERN REGION OFFICE

**M.S. 31-10B
1000 Corporate Center Drive
Suite 610B
Monterey Park, CA. 91754**

Toll Free (877) 846-1602

